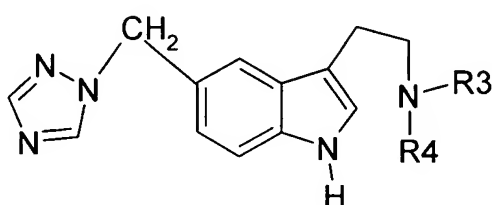


Amendments to the claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

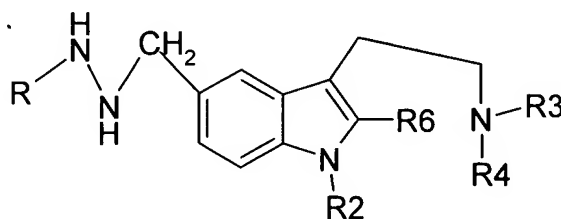
1. (Currently Amended) A process for the manufacture of an 1,2,4-triazol-1-yl compound of the formula [A],



[A]

or a salt thereof,
wherein

each of R3 and R4 is independently hydrogen or lower alkyl
said process comprising
reacting a hydrazine compound of the formula [B]



[B]

wherein

R is hydrogen or acyl

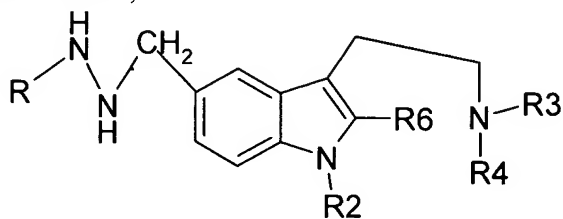
R2 is hydrogen or a protecting group, each of R3 and R4 is independently hydrogen or lower alkyl, and

R6 is hydrogen or a group COOR7, with R7 being hydrogen or one equivalent of a cation or a suitable hydrocarbon residue,
or a salt thereof,

with a 1,2,4-triazolyl forming reagent,

and, if R is acyl in formula [B], optionally removing an acyl group R before the reaction of the compound of the formula [B] with the 1,2,4-triazolyl forming reagent,
and removing any protecting group R2 and removing any group COOR7 to produce the compound of the formula [A], or a salt thereof.

2. (Original) The process according to claim 1 wherein R6 is hydrogen.
3. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein the 1,2,4-triazol-1-yl compound of the formula [A] is ~~or 2 for the manufacture of Rizatriptan.~~
4. (Currently Amended) The process according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 3~~, comprising the additional step of converting a salt of a resulting compound of the formula [A] into a free form of a compound of the formula [A], converting a resulting free form of a compound of the formula [A] into a salt, or converting a salt of a compound of the formula [A] into a different salt.
5. (Currently Amended) The process according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 4~~, where R in the compound of formula [B] is hydrogen, formyl or C₂-C₇alkanoyl, ~~and wherein if C₂-C₇alkanoyl, it is present, it is hydrolytically removed prior to the reaction with the 1,2,4-triazolyl forming reagent, and where in each of formulae [A] and [B], each of R3 and R4 is methyl and the compound of the formula [A] is produced in free form or in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.~~
6. (Currently Amended) The process according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 5~~, where the 1,2,4-triazolyl forming reagent is selected from the group consisting of 1,3,5-triazine, formamidine, formamidinium salts ~~or~~ and derivatives, and formamide.
7. (Currently Amended) The process ~~Process~~ according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 6~~, wherein, prior to the reaction with the 1,2,4-triazolyl forming reagent, the compound of the formula [B] as defined in claim 1 is converted into the mono- or diammonium salt by reaction with 1 or 2 equivalents of a protic acid, and purified by crystallization or recrystallization.
8. (Currently Amended) A process for the manufacture of a compound of the formula [B] or a salt thereof,



[B]

wherein

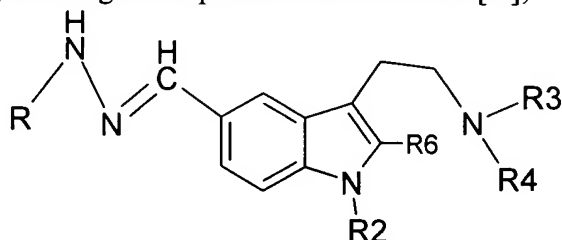
R is hydrogen or acyl

R2 is hydrogen or a protecting group,

each of R3 and R4 is independently hydrogen or lower alkyl,

R6 is hydrogen or a group COOR7, with R7 being hydrogen or one equivalent of a cation or a suitable hydrocarbon residue,

said process comprising reacting a compound of the formula [D],

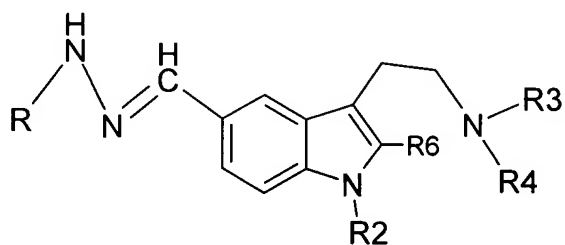


[D]

wherein R, R2, R3, R4 and R6 are as defined above, or a salt thereof, under reductive conditions to a compound of the formula [B], or a salt thereof, and, if residue R6 is COOR7, optionally converting residue R6 into hydrogen.

9. (Currently Amended) Process—The process of claim 8, wherein R is hydrogen or lower alkanoyl, and each of R3 and R4 is methyl.

10. (Currently Amended) A process for the manufacture of a compound of the formula [D]



[D]

or a salt thereof, wherein

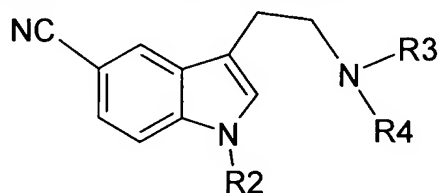
R is hydrogen or acyl,

R2 is hydrogen or a protecting group,

each of residues R3 and R4 is independently hydrogen or lower alkyl and

R6 is hydrogen,

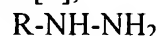
said process comprising reacting a compound of the formula [E],



[E]

wherein each of R2, R3 and R4 is as defined above, or a salt thereof,

with a hydrazine of the formula [F],

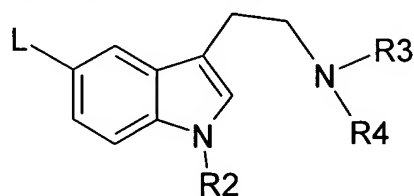


[F]

wherein R is as defined above, or a salt thereof, under reductive conditions to the compound of the formula [D], or a salt thereof.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~process~~ Process of claim 10, wherein R is hydrogen or lower alkanoyl, and each of R3 and R4 is methyl.

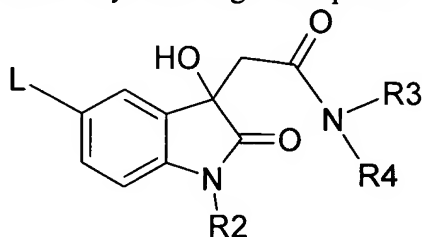
12. (Currently Amended) The ~~process~~ Process of claim 10-~~or 11~~, wherein the compound of the formula [E] is obtained by reacting a compound of the formula [G],



[G]

wherein R2, R3 and R4 are as defined in claim 10-~~or 11~~, or a salt thereof, and L is halogen or unsubstituted or substituted alkanesulfonyloxy or arylsulfonyloxy, with a cyanide salt, optionally in the presence of a catalyst.

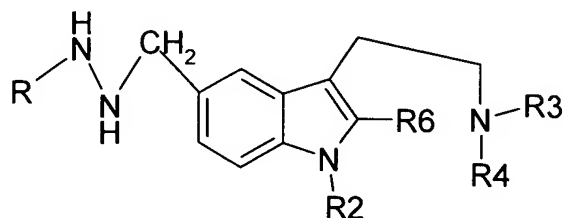
13. (Currently Amended) ~~A-~~ The process of claim 12, wherein the compound of the formula [G], or salt thereof, is obtained by reducing a compound of the formula [H],



[H]

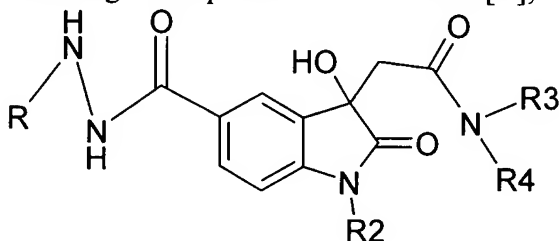
wherein R2, R3, R4 and L are as defined in claim 12, in the presence of borane, and subjecting the resulting product(s) to removal of borane from any amino borane intermediates to a subsequent oxidation/de-hydrogenation with an oxidant, in order to yield the compound of the formula [G], or a salt thereof.

14. (Currently Amended) A process for the manufacture of a compound of the formula [B]



[B]

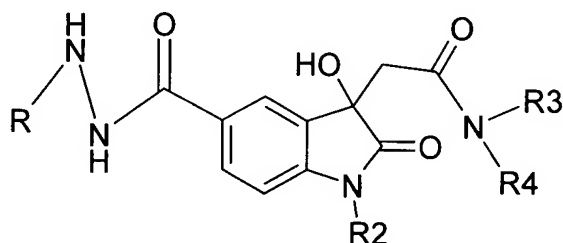
wherein R is hydrogen or acyl, R2 is hydrogen or a protecting group, and each of R3 and R4 is independently hydrogen or lower alkyl, and R6 is hydrogen or COOR7, R7 is hydrogen or one equivalent of a cation or a suitable hydrocarbon residue or a salt thereof, said process comprising reducing a compound of the formula [C],



[C]

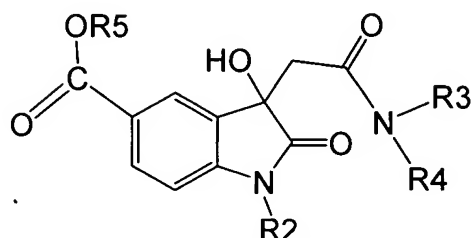
wherein R, R2, R3 and R4 are as defined above, or a salt thereof, in the presence of borane, and subjecting the resulting product(s) to removal of borane from any amino borane intermediates and to a subsequent oxidation/de-hydrogenation with an oxidant, thus producing a compound of the formula [B], or a salt thereof.

15. (Currently Amended) A process for the manufacture of a compound of the formula [C]



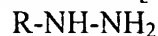
[C]

or a salt thereof, wherein R is hydrogen or acyl, R2 is hydrogen or a protecting group, and each of R3 and R4 is independently hydrogen or lower alkyl, or a salt thereof, said process comprising reacting a compound of the formula [N],



[N]

wherein R2, R3 and R4 are as defined above and R5 is unsubstituted or substituted alkyl or a salt thereof, with a hydrazine of the formula [F]

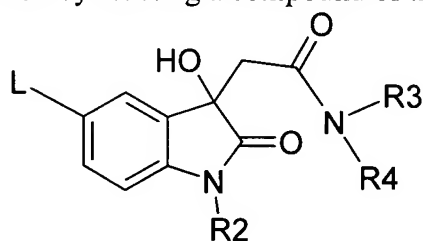


[F]

wherein R is as defined above, or a salt thereof,
to a compound of the formula [C] or a salt thereof.

16. ~~(Currently Amended) Process~~—The process of claim 15, wherein R5 in formula [N] is lower alkyl, and/or R in formula [F] is hydrogen.

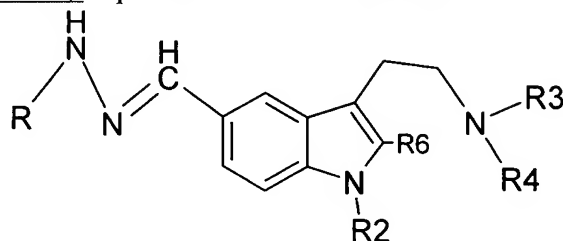
17. ~~(Currently Amended) Process~~—The process of claim 15 ~~or 16~~, wherein the compound of the formula [N] is obtained by reacting a compound of the formula [H]



[H]

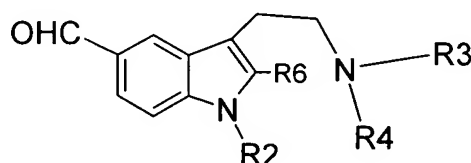
or a salt thereof, wherein R2, R3 and R4 are as defined in claim 15 ~~or 16~~, and L is halogen, unsubstituted or substituted alkanesulfonyloxy or arylsulfonyloxy, with carbon monoxide in the presence of the corresponding alcohol R5-OH, wherein R5 is as defined in claim 15 or 16, a catalyst and a tertiary nitrogen base, to the compound of the formula [N].

18. (Currently Amended) A process for the manufacture of a compound of the formula [D]



[D]

or a salt thereof, wherein R2 is hydrogen or a protecting group, each of R3 and R4 is independently hydrogen or lower alkyl, R6 is hydrogen or COOR7, R7 is hydrogen or one equivalent of a cation or a suitable hydrocarbon residue and R is hydrogen or acyl, said process comprising reacting an aldehyde of the formula [O],



[O]

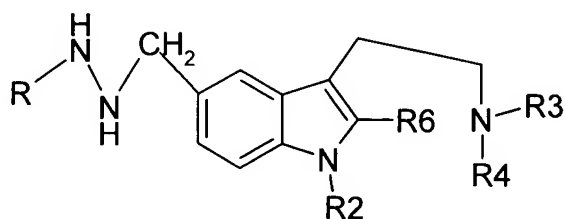
or a salt thereof, with a compound of the formula [F]



[F]

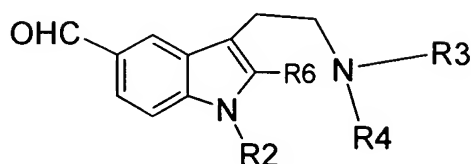
wherein R, R2, R3, R4, R6 and R7 are as defined above, and if R6 is COOR7, optionally converting R6 into hydrogen.

19. (Currently Amended) A process for the manufacture of a compound of the formula [B]



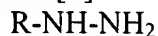
[B]

or a salt thereof, wherein R is hydrogen or acyl, R2 is hydrogen or a protecting group, each of R3 and R4 is independently hydrogen or lower alkyl, R6 is hydrogen or COOR7, and R7 is hydrogen or one equivalent of a cation or a suitable hydrocarbon residue, said process comprising reacting an aldehyde of the formula [O]



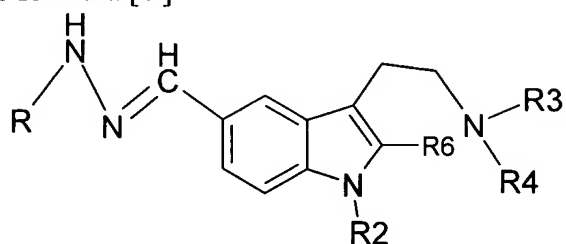
[O]

or a salt thereof, with a hydrazine [F]



[F]

to a hydrazone of the formula [D]



[D]

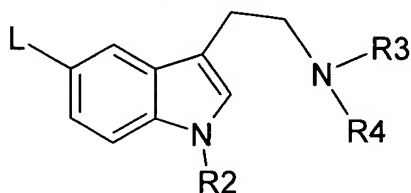
or salt thereof,

followed by subsequent reduction of the hydrazone of the formula [D] or salt thereof, to a compound of the formula [B], or a salt thereof, and if R6 is COOR7 optionally converting R6 into hydrogen.

20. ~~(Currently Amended) Process-~~The process according to claim 19, wherein R is hydrogen, formyl or C₂-C₇alkanoyl, R2 is a protecting group or hydrogen, and each of R3 and R4 are methyl.

21. ~~(Currently Amended) A-~~The process for the manufacture of a compound of the formula [B] according to claim 19 ~~or 20~~, wherein residue R6 is hydrogen.

22. ~~(Currently Amended) Process-~~The process according to claim 21, where the compound of the formula [O], or a salt thereof, is obtained from a compound of the formula [G],



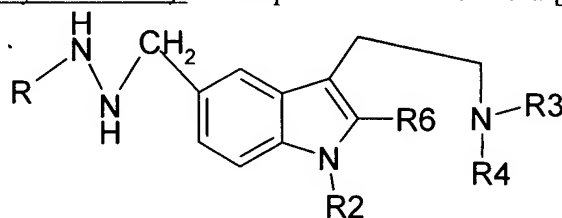
[G]

or a salt thereof, wherein each of R2, R3 and R4 is as defined in ~~any of claims~~ claim 19 to 21 and L is halogen, by reacting it with first a lithium alkyl compound to form the lithio derivative and

then with DMF or triethyl formate, to obtain a corresponding compound of the formula [O], or a salt thereof, after hydrolysis.

23. ~~(Currently Amended) Process~~ The process according to ~~any of claims~~ 19 to 22, wherein, prior to the reaction with the hydrazine, R6 in the compound of the formula [O] if it is COOR7, is converted into hydrogen, and the compound of the formula [O] is converted into an acid addition salt with a protic acid selected from hydrogen halide, sulphuric or sulphonic acid or a carboxylic acid, which is purified by crystallization or recrystallization.

24. ~~(Currently Amended)~~ A compound of the formula [B]



wherein

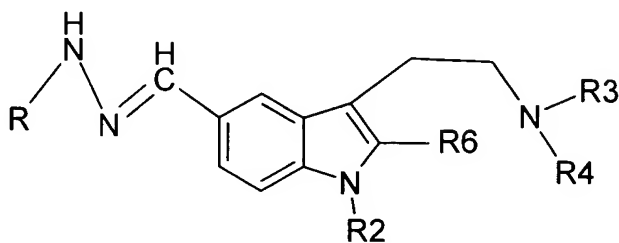
R is hydrogen or acyl

R2 is hydrogen or a protecting group,

each of R3 and R4 is independently hydrogen or lower alkyl and

R6 is hydrogen or a group COOR7, with R7 being hydrogen or one equivalent of a cation or a suitable hydrocarbon residue, or a salt thereof.

25. ~~(Currently Amended)~~ A compound of the formula [D]



wherein

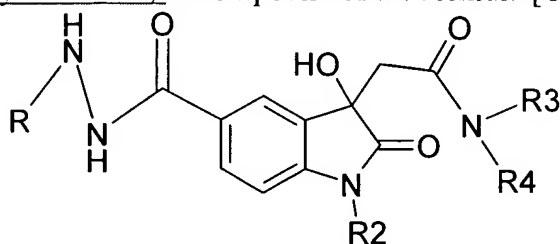
R is hydrogen or acyl,

R2 is hydrogen or a protecting group,

each of R3 and R4 is independently hydrogen or lower alkyl, and

R6 is hydrogen or COOR7, with R7 being hydrogen or one equivalent of a cation or a suitable hydrocarbon residue,
or a salt thereof.

26. (Currently Amended) A compound of the formula [C]



[C]

wherein

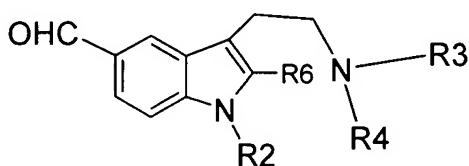
R is hydrogen,

R2 is hydrogen or a protecting group,

each of R3 and R4 is independently hydrogen or lower alkyl,
or a salt thereof.

27. (Currently Amended) A—The compound of the formula [C] according to claim 26, wherein each of R3 and R4 is methyl.

28. (Currently Amended) Acid addition salt of a compound of formula [O]



[O]

wherein R2 is hydrogen or a protecting group, each of R3 and R4 is independently hydrogen or lower alkyl, R6 is hydrogen or COOR7, and R7 is hydrogen or one equivalent of a cation or a suitable hydrocarbon residue,
with a protic acid selected from hydrogen halide, sulphuric or sulphonic acid or a carboxylic acid.

- | 29. (Currently Amended) A process ~~Process~~ for producing Rizatriptan or a salt thereof,
| wherein the process comprises the use of a compound of formula [B], [D], [E], [G], [H], [N]
| and/or [O] as previously ~~defined in any of the preceding claims.~~